

From Where We Stand . . .

YOUR Farm and Home Center Needs YOUR Support!

On Monday, January 25, the campaign for the Lancaster County Farm and Home Center will be officially launched. Do you plan to support it? If you do, fine! If you do not, may we ask that you take another look at the facts and reconsider the proposition?

This is the biggest undertaking in which Lancaster County farmers have ever been asked to join. The total amount needed for the structure is \$375,000. Two-thirds of this — \$250,000 — must come from farmers and farm-related businesses. The balance will come from industries, individuals, and metropolitan businesses.

Many of Lancaster's large industries look favorably on the proposed Center; the Chamber of Commerce feels that by benefiting farmers, it will be beneficial to the whole community; more than 125 prominent business and farm leaders have endorsed it. There is no question that the county farmers will be the group which will benefit most, and they will do so directly.

About two-dozen counties in New York have comparable centers; many of these have been in operation for some time. A committee under the chairmanship of M. M. Smith, County Agricultural Agent, took a first-hand look at several of these centers about two years ago. They observed how they had been organized, how they were used, and how they were financially sustained. The plans for Lancaster County Farm and Home Center were patterned after these successfully-operated centers.

For example, one New York county with an annual agricultural volume of \$21 million established a Farm and Home Center to service their county's agriculture. Lancaster County in 1964 produced a gross crop and livestock value of over \$117 million! There can be little doubt that the ability to support such a project is inherent in our county agricultural structure.

After the Foundation successfully collects the needed \$375,000 and gets the building into operation, how much more will it take to sustain the operation? Although a formal budget has not yet been made available, it is calculated with a great deal of assuredness that the Center will be self-sustaining through the rental of office, meeting, and banquet space. This has been the experience of those centers studied in the New York area, and there is every reason to believe such would be the case here.

The offices will be occupied by several federal agencies serving county farmers — SCS, ASCS, and FHA — and by the Agricultural Extension Service. Meeting rooms accommodating up to 500 persons will be used by the various county crop, livestock and civic groups. The 1500 boys and girls in 4-H Club activities and other youth groups will be served by these facilities.

The Farm and Home Center will indeed be a credit to all of Lancaster County, but particularly to those directly connected with agriculture. Without your support there can be no Farm and Home Center. With your support we can keep the East's leading agricultural

county in the prominent position of leadership in which it belongs.

When the Farm and Home solicitor calls at your farm please welcome him wholeheartedly, and pledge as much as you possibly can, payable over the next two years. We think the proposed Farm and Home Center is the most worthwhile project on the agricultural horizon for county farmers.

What Do YOU Think?

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Water By The Bagfull?

It may be hard for us to realize the true value of water in our lush area where we are accustomed to 40 inches or more of rainfall a year. However, because we have recently completed our third consecutive drought year, perhaps we can muster some small appreciation of the meaning of water in desert and semi-arid regions — and hope that the experiences in those areas are not forerunners of what we can someday expect.

Recently we received a brochure from one of the nation's tire and rubber manufacturers which described a process for salvaging the maximum of rainfall with a rain trap. The principle of the rain trap is not new; it is recorded in biblical times, and areas such as the Virgin Islands have used this system for several centuries to gather their water. But in the past these traps have been rather inefficient. For example, in desert areas a shower might lay down many gallons of water, but before it can be properly "harvested" the thirsty sun comes out and drinks most of it up.

This company employs a system which uses a butyl rubber sheet laid out over a large area in strips which have been joined by mastic to form a watertight seam. Before these strips are put down the earth must be bulldozed to the desired depth and slope. When case.

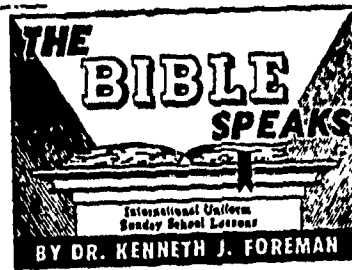
rain falls onto this sheet its course is directed by the slope through butyl tubing into large butyl bags reinforced with nylon. These bags are designed to store up to 50,000 gallons of the precious liquid.

As an example of the effectiveness of this method, the manufacturer cites an arid range land in Utah where rain fell on only 34 days of the year, amounting to an annual total of 8.08 inches. The company points out that this amount of rain falling on just one acre would total yearly 218,000 gallons. If this rainfall had been properly collected with several rain traps and stored, it would have been sufficient to water 100 head of cattle for about 218 days, the company claimed.

It is unlikely that Lancaster County will ever have to rely on this method for water, but there are surely no guarantees that such will not be the case.

Water is the single most precious resource with which we are blessed, and yet in our everyday lives we waste gallons and gallons of this commodity, and take for granted that there will always be "plenty more where that came from". Will there? We sure hope so! Good conservation practices on all our parts will go a long way toward insuring that goal.

What Do YOU Think?



Christ Has Enemies

Lesson for January 24, 1965

Background Scriptures: Matthew 8 and 10.
Devotional Reading: Matthew 10:37-42.

We sometimes think that if Jesus were only alive on this earth he could win friends and followers for himself where we so often fail even when we try. We talk about goodness; but he was goodness itself, divine



goodness, in person. How could he fall to be winsome? The fact is, he was winsome, but he had enemies all the same.

We can expect some people not to like him. This female atheist who is now almost a professional anti-religionist, and is noisily wailing if she can't drive religion and the church out of existence (she's wasting her time); also criminals and cranks of many kinds — we are not astonished when they scoff at religion and anyone who takes it seriously, as Jesus did. But the worst of it is that Jesus not only had enemies; but they were from the most respectable and religious circles. What did they have against him?

Too deep, too high

One thing came out in the incident of the paralyzed man let down through the roof of the house where Jesus was speaking. If Jesus had just cured the man — it was all he hoped for — there would have been no complaints unless he had done the cure on the Sabbath. But Jesus offended some people by going too deep and too high at the same time. Jesus probed beneath the surface of the man's life, and said "Your sins are forgiven." How did Jesus know this bedridden man had any sins? What business was it of his? Live and let live, why not? But the offense was still worse. Jesus spoke with absolute assurance. Not, I pray your sin may be forgiven, but, "Your sins are forgiven!" Jesus not only knew what had gone on in the patient's mind — for a sick person's sins are most likely to be of the mind — but he virtually claimed to know and to speak for the mind of God. If in dealing with the patient he had gone too high. At least, so it seemed

to his critics. They seem not to have considered this point: What if Jesus' claims are true? Suppose he really can detect mental sin, suppose he actually does know the mind of God?

No etiquette

There is in all religions a certain kind of thing we may call religious etiquette. The right way and time to stand or kneel or pray, the right clothes to wear, the right words to use in prayer. One form of such etiquette (another name for it is ceremonialism) much prized in Jesus' time was fasting. Fasting is not wrong; but when it is done by clock or calendar instead of spontaneously, and especially when it becomes a substitute for real heartfelt contrition for sins committed, it can be a nuisance and a type of hypocrisy. Repentance is a slow and difficult process; fasting can soon be done and over with. Repentance makes a different person out of you. Fasting can leave you just as you were, or maybe a bit thinner. Jesus fasted from time to time, we know; but his disciples did not. He never rebuked them for not doing so; and this again "stung" the Pharisees. Form is to religion what an eggshell is to an egg. It keeps the contents from getting lost, perhaps; but the eggshell should never be mistaken for the egg itself.

Disappointable friends
Another reason why Jesus was bitterly disliked was the sort of people he spent time with. He knew and used to have dinner with some of the more notorious characters of the town. Now the enemies of Jesus supposed that the badness of these people would somehow rub off on him. It did not occur to them that maybe his goodness was of such a dynamic sort that it would rub off on the sinners.

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press Service)

STATE HATCHINGS INCREASE SEASONALLY

Chick hatchings continued a seasonal increase in the Keystone State during December to 54 million chicks — 4 percent higher than November but 2 percent less than December 1963. The broiler-type chick hatch during December (40 million) declined 2 percent from November and 4 percent from a year ago. The current total annual production of 468 million dropped 2 percent from 1963. Egg-type hatchings (1.4 million) increased 26 percent from November 1964 and 4 percent from December 1963. The 1964 annual total of 285 million was 9 percent below 1963 total production.

Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH



MAX SMITH

To Apply Brush and Stump Sprays
Winter is a good time to use chemicals on brush and stumps. When used during the dormant season on trees and shrubs that are to be eliminated, we remove most of the danger of damaging growing crops. A mixture of the ester form of 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T will do a good job of killing most any tree or stump; one pound of this chemical to eight pounds of fuel oil will make a good mixture to be used during cold weather.

To Cull Low Producers
Production costs are at the point where dairymen cannot afford to keep low producing cows; the overhead on most herds require the keeping of cows that more than pay their expenses. The enrolling in a production testing association or service is the best way to learn what cows in the herd are not paying a good return on the investment.

To Provide Minerals For Ewe Flock

Winter care of the ewes is very important for both a good wool clip and a good lamb crop. The supply of calcium and phosphorus is overlooked many times when grass hay is fed to the flock. When we feed good quality alfalfa hay, since it is high in minerals, the need is satisfied. However, with poor quality

hay or with grass hay we suggest the feeding of a mineral mixture in addition to free choice of salt. The mineral mixture may be equal parts of ground limestone and steamed bonemeal, or the purchase of di-calcium phosphate. Either of these mixtures contain both calcium and phosphorus, which are needed for the ewes.

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Weather Forecast
Temperatures for the five-day period Saturday through Wednesday are expected to average above normal. Normal for the period is a high of 39 and low is 23 degrees. It will be mild for most of the period.

Precipitation will total 1/2-3/4 inch, falling during the weekend and again on Wednesday. It may begin as snow on Saturday, but is expected to turn to rain.

CORRECTION

In our article on January 9, 1965 "Improve Tobacco Returns Through Better Handling" we mistakenly quoted Henry B. Engle, Research Agronomist, Southeastern Field Research Laboratory as recommending the now outmoded practice of grower-sizing of tobacco. Rather, Engle's recommendation was that for a better return the grower should grade his tobacco more accurately on a quality basis. Our sincere apologies to Mr. Engle for this misinterpretation.